Government of Rajasthan is also implementing a World Bank assisted project on agriculture development (ADP) under which an amount of Rs. 631.95 lakh was released from 1992-93 to 1994-95.

A Central Cattle Breeding Farm is also functioning at Suratgarh which maintains Tharparkar breed or cattle which is most suitable to the desert districts.

Food Processing Industries

2130. SHRI VIJAY PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Govenment propose to encourage the food processing industries dealing with perishable items and export the same ;

(a) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (c) Most of the raw materials used by food processing industries are perishable in nature. Various steps taken by the Government for development of food processing industries deal with processing and preservation of such raw materials, resulting in enhancement of level of domestic consumption as well as export.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also Operating various plan Schemes for promoting food processing industries.

Pollution by Oil and Grease

2131. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there has been accumulation of tar ball (oil) on the beaches form Thannirbhavi to Padubidri in Dakshina Kannada District in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons for mixing of oil and grease materials in water;

(c) whether oil and grease material in water would lead to the depletion of oxygen resulting in the death of aquatic life; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Accumulation of Tar ball on the beaches from Tannirbhavi to Padubidri in Dakshina Kannada district in Karnataka has been reported. Tar balls are formed due to churning action of wind, water and current during monsoons and washed into the shore. They mainly result from routine tank washing and deballasting. The occurrence of tar balls on the beaches along the west coast of India is a seasonal phenomena. They occur with the onset of monsoons.

(c) and (d) The tar balls do not deplete dissolved oxygen in sea water. There is no significant impact on marine life.

Ecologically Critical Areas

2132. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the areas identified as ecologically oritical by National Afforestation and Ecodevelopment Board during the last three years in the country;

(b) whether any study has been made on its impact; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken exclusively for eco-recognisation in those areas ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Guidelines for the afforestation schemes of the National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board (NAEB) indicate the nature of the areas which should be addressed on priority by projects under these schemes. A major emphasis in the schemes is on afforestation of ecologically fragile areas such as Western Himalayas; Aravallies, Western Ghats ; etc. Individual project proposals are prepared by the respective State Governments on the basis of their estimation of the local situation. The NAEB does not itself identify specific sites as ecologically critical.

Welfare Schemes for Delhi

2133. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the welfare schemes being implemented by the Ministry in the National Capital Territory of Delhi; and

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The details of the schemes of the Ministry of Welfare under implementation in various States/UTs, including the National Capital Territory of Delhi alongwith the funds allocated for each scheme for the year 1997-98 are given in the attached Statement. No allocation of funds is made separately for individual State/ U.T. The schemes for Tribal Welfare have not been included, as the National Capital Territory of Delhi is not a Tribal State.